AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic mail client comprising:

means for transmitting an electronic mail via a mail server; and

means for storing <u>information representing</u> a plurality of mail servers and a priority order

of the <u>respective</u> mail servers;

~~wherein a mail server is selected~~ <u>selection means for selecting a mail server for</u>

<u>transmitting an electronic mail</u> in accordance with the priority order stored in the means for

storing ~~and an electronic mail is transmitted via the selected mail server~~; and

<u>determining means for determining a type of failure that has occurred</u> when ~~failing in~~ the

transmission of the electronic mail via the selected mail server <u>fails, and for determining, in</u>

<u>accordance with the type of failure determined, whether</u> ~~an electronic mail is retransmitted via a~~

~~mail server of next order~~<u>to select a mail server of next in priority order, to establish a connection</u>

<u>again with the mail server that was selected at the time of the failure in the transmission of the</u>

<u>electronic mail, or to cancel the transmission.</u>

2. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein

when ~~failing in a~~ the determining means determines that the type of failure is a failure in a

connection with the selected mail server, ~~the~~ a mail server of the next in priority order is selected.

5. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 4, wherein when

~~failing in~~ the determining means determines the failure in the connection with the selected mail

server, the mail server of the next in order is selected immediately without waiting for an elapse

of waiting time.

6. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein

when ~~the~~ a connection with the selected mail server is established but the determining means

determines that the type of failure is a temporary error generated during a communication, the

connection is established again with the mail server that was selected at the time of the failure in

the transmission of the electronic mail.

7. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein when

~~failing in the~~ the determining means determines that the type of failure is a failure in transmission

of the electronic mail due to incorrect destination, the transmission is cancelled.

8. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 7, wherein when

~~failing in the~~ the determining means determines the failure in transmission of the electronic mail

due to the incorrect destination, a message indicating such a fact is output, and the transmission

is cancelled.

9. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, further

comprising:

a plurality of means for transmitting;

a plurality of destinations of the electronic mail; and

means for storing whether or not to select a mail server of next in priority order for each

~~transmitter~~ means for transmitting or for each destination of the electronic mail.

10. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 9, ~~wherein~~ further

comprising a bypass permission table which stores whether or not to select a mail server of next

in priority order for each ~~transmitter~~ means for transmitting or for each destination of the

electronic mail, wherein the bypass permission table can be formed and rewritten.

11. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein there is

a limit on whether or not to select a mail server of next in priority order according to a level of

authority of a ~~transmitter~~ means for transmitting.

12. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, wherein a ~~transmitter~~ means for transmitting can determine whether or not to select the mail server of next in priority order for each transmission of an electronic mail.

13. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a mail server list which stores the plurality of mail servers and the priority order of the plurality of mail servers, ~~is formed~~ wherein the mail server list is rewritable.

14. (Currently Amended) The electronic mail client according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for forming a transmission log;

wherein "transmission date and time", "destination", "mail server that was used", and "transmission result" are written in the transmission log.

15. (Original) The electronic mail client according to claim 14, wherein the transmission log is formed for each Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) connection.

16. (Original) The electronic mail client according to claim 14, wherein the transmission log is formed for each Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) transmission.

17. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A recording medium ~~which records~~ storing a program for controlling an electronic mail client which transmits an electronic mail via a mail server, the program controlling the electronic mail client to perform a method, comprising:

~~command for~~ storing information representing a plurality of mail servers and a priority order of the respective mail servers;

~~command for~~ selecting a mail server for transmitting an electronic mail in accordance with the stored priority order; ~~and~~

~~command for selecting a mail server of next in order when failing in the transmission of the electronic mail via the selected mail server;~~

~~wherein the electronic mail can be transmitted via the selected mail server~~

determining a type of failure that has occurred when transmission of the electronic mail via the selected mail server fails; and

determining, in accordance with the type of failure determined, whether to select a mail server of next in priority order, to establish a connection again with the mail server that was selected at the time of failure in the transmission of the electronic mail or to cancel the transmission.

20. (Canceled)